



MEMO

To: Honorable Mayor and the Frisco City Council
Thru: George Purefoy, City Manager
From: Curt Balogh, Director of Information Technology
CC: Ron Patterson, Assistant City Manager
Date: 11/4/2008
Re: Procurement of GeoComm Software

This is a request to purchase and implement the GeoComm mapping software suite to meet requirements of the interlocal agreement between the City of Frisco and Frisco Independent School District. Project S.A.F.E.R. (Situational Awareness for Emergency Response) was established to create a system linking information from disparate Public Safety applications and FISD data into a central map interface, enabled by GeoComm.

Current Systems

There is not an existing integration between the Police CAD system and the Fire records management system. This new mapping software will serve to display information from both of these systems graphically, as well as to add additional functionality listed below that will assist in crisis management in the event of an emergency at a school.

Additionally, the FISD does not have a system to view information submitted to the City Public Safety divisions. This map system will contain a web interface allowing them to view information and alert the City if there is a discrepancy.

The GIS department has been utilizing the latest ESRI software in their development efforts throughout the City. The current Public Safety systems do not have the capability to take advantage of the increased functionality available through ESRI ArcGIS Server, ArcEngine or the SDE Database. GeoComm will bridge that gap and create an interface that all divisions can use to take advantage of the increase in information availability.

The GeoComm software suite surpasses the requirements of Project S.A.F.E.R. and adds additional functionality and benefit to both the Police and Fire departments. It is an established company with over 600 customers across the United States including

the Cities of Denton, Richardson, Galveston, Tomball, Grapevine, Cedar Park and Lewisville. The specific high priority features and benefits that GeoComm will provide are:

- GeoComm provides ability to display layers of information specific to Police and Fire map needs. For example, Fire hydrants would be visible to fire fighters but not the Police view.
- GeoComm provides 3 custom mapping interfaces that meet the individual needs of 1) Dispatch personnel (via a desktop application), 2) Emergency responders (police & fire) in mobile vehicles (via a mobile application), and 3) FISD security staff during a school related incident (via a web based application).
- GeoComm provides a unique method to communicate across all three applications using map markups (text, symbols and shapes that can be drawn directly over the GIS map), which can be created in any of the 3 applications noted above and shared out instantly to all other users of the applications for immediate planning, communication and emergency response during a critical incident.
- GeoComm provides sophisticated map-based vehicle routing and navigation allowing dispatchers and emergency responders to be aware of all city resources at all times for improved response and planning.
- GeoComm offers flexible tools to allow for linking documents and video to map features for easy access of critical information during an incident.
- GeoComm provides Pictometry integration for enhanced aerial views of any part of the city.

GeoComm makes use of existing city GIS data for maximum flexibility, data access and data searching capabilities.

Process for Procurement

Requirements gathering for Project S.A.F.E.R. began in January, 2008. The Fire, Police and IT/GIS departments met along with members from the Frisco Independent School District to determine the requirements for a crisis management system to use in the event of a school emergency. These requirements were documented and compiled into a Request for Proposal released in September 2008. GeoComm was the sole response to the RFP. The IT/GIS department reviewed the proposal and identified GeoComm as a vendor that met all requirements for the interface. They had previously demonstrated their software for the Public Safety groups on 5/9/08, the IT/GIS group on 7/15/08 and the Public Safety groups again on 9/5/08. It was determined that GeoComm was the best software available currently to meet our requirements, timeline and budget.

In addition to the GeoComm software suite, Project S.A.F.E.R. involves a larger software implementation of integrating and mining the information from all the existing systems and developing a SharePoint site for obtaining contact information and documents from the Frisco Independent School District.

Recommendation

I recommend the approval of the contract with GeoComm for the software purchase and implementation services in the amount of \$201,796. This amount is funded by the Frisco Independent School District as part of an interlocal agreement.

If I can be of any support, please contact me at 972.292.5180 or by email at cbalogh@friscotexas.org.